

# Acquisition Reform Success Story

## Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP)

**Program Manager:** Col Norton B. James III  
**DAC:** LtGen Lester L. Lyles  
**Contractor:** Lockheed Martin Astro Space  
Harris Corp, Sterling Software

### Program Description

DMSP is a series of weather satellites the Department of Defense's Air Weather Service uses for global weather forecasting. The satellites are a military version of NOAA's TIROS weather satellites. DMSP's primary mission is to provide visible, infrared, and microwave imagery of the Earth and its clouds for use in weather forecasting.

### How Streamlining Made a Difference

DMSP led a Tri-agency team of experienced DoD, DoC and NASA personnel in analyzing multiple architecture alternatives to support the convergence of DMSP and NOAA's TIROS into a single national program. The SPO applied cost estimating disciplines (including DMSP developed "cost risk") into all acquisitions, thus protecting the taxpayer from contractors trying to "buy-in" with unrealistic cost proposals. Used Software Development Capability Evaluation, which provides insight into the software development process, reducing risk by 15% on the CDFS II contract. DMSP will initiate the SMC prototype using the Electronic Data Interchange.

Measure	Reduction
Operational Line Scanners - Contract Data Requirements List (CDRLs)	30%
Ground Systems-Small Tactical Terminal - Paper deliveries	20%
Ground Systems-Small Tactical Terminal - Initial development cost	25%
Ground Systems-Cloud Depiction & Forecast System (CDFS) - Paper copies	50%
Consolidated Satellite Operations Centers (SOC)	Single SOC
Workforce - 184 people in FY94 to 125 people in FY00	30%

**Bottom Line:** Developing an in-house simulation lab using actual on-orbit data; combining three sensor into one improved integrated sensor (doing it **better**), 95% of Mark IVB and 100% of STT is COTS/NDI hardware (doing it **faster**), realizing \$1.2B in convergence savings (doing it **cheaper**).

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